

3-25-2016

The Bison, March 25, 2016

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/thebison>

Recommended Citation

The Bison, March 25, 2016. (2016). Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/thebison/1878>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Special Collections at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Bison by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact scholarworks@harding.edu.



March 25, 2016
Vol. 91, No. 16



@HUSStudentPubs
Facebook: The Link

A HARDING UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATION

THE BISON

online at thelink.harding.edu

Searcy, Ark., 72149

NEWS	2A
OPINIONS	3&4A
SPORTS	1&2B
FEATURES	3B
LIFESTYLE	4B

SPRING SING 2016

Retro-bution



Special
Section Pages
1C-4C

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SAWYER HITE AND AMANDA FLOYD

The 2016 Spring Sing theme 'Retro-bution' takes audience members back to the '70s and '80s. From 'Back to the Future' to 'Ghostbusters,' this show aims to bring vintage flare to the Benson stage.

Remembering Blake R. Hunter

By Savanna DiStefano
Features Editor

"When a young person dies, like Blake, it makes everyone look at their own mortality, try to put important things first (and) not get caught up in the petty things in life," Cindee Stockstill, producer of theatre and Spring Sing, said. "I'd say we are all a little closer because of that."

Former student Blake Hunter sang in the rain, bloomed in Spring Sing and proudly achieved the status of Modern Major General during his time at Harding. Hunter was deeply rooted with the Department of Theatre, and his death on Jan. 23 left family and friends with broken hearts and Spring Sing without a talented choreographer.

"It's been a challenge just to walk through the grieving process," Robin Miller, chair of the Department of Theatre, said. "We lost a friend — that first and foremost was the big thing — and we lost a friend unexpectedly, so that definitely affects us."

Hunter was involved in Searcy Summer Dinner Theatre, Pied Pipers, Uplift summer camp and several Harding performances. He also taught theater at Crosspointe Preparatory School in Searcy, Arkansas. He had participated in Spring Sing in various capacities since his arrival to Harding

in 2010; as an ensemble member, men's social club TNT director, host and 2016 choreographer.

"I think he was just born to entertain and be funny and silly and make people laugh," Stockstill said. "Not only was he a superior entertainer, he was a great person. He cared about people, he made you feel special, he was a loyal friend — he was a good guy."

Susan Shirel, instructor of music and music judge for Spring Sing for 2016, said Hunter was a comic who enjoyed bringing joy to others. She said Hunter considered it a privilege to choreograph the Homecoming musical and Spring Sing.

"(Hunter) would do just about anything to get a laugh from an audience," Shirel said. "His comedic timing was instinctual and natural for him, not contrived, but he could also be very genuine and authentic on stage. I think that is one of the reasons why he loved Spring Sing so much: it was an opportunity to bring joy to others as himself, not a character."

Junior Renee Maynard and senior Claire Heffley volunteered to continue Hunter's choreography work in this year's Spring Sing show.

"It's been a whirlwind," Maynard said. "I was very nervous about (helping with Hunter's role). Blake was such a

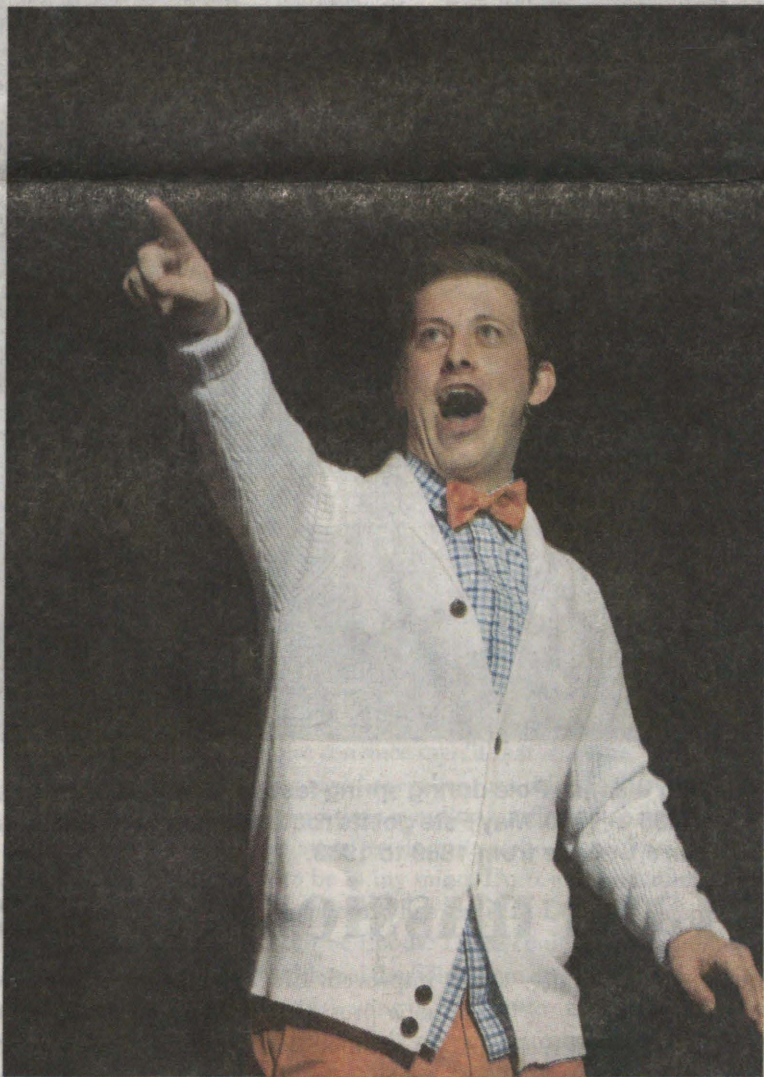
great choreographer, and he's such a great leader ... but because everyone else was dealing with (Hunter's) passing, we all just kind of pulled together."

Stockstill said the death of Hunter has affected the interactions between cast and crew members by reminding them of life's impermanence.

"How we treat each other backstage and what we say to each other in rehearsal, that has changed a little bit," Stockstill said. "We're just more aware and a little closer because we are going through suffering together and the loss of Blake together."

The Department of Theatre will be coordinating a Chili's give-back event April 6. According to Stockstill, Hunter took his sister, senior Kalyn Hunter, to Chili's each year on April 6, the day before her birthday. All proceeds will go toward the Blake Hunter Theatre Scholarship fund.

"Blake's death has been a reminder of how wide an influence one person can have by simply taking the time to pay attention and be present the lives of the people around you," Shirel said. "The ironic thing is that I'm not sure Blake was aware of how much he was loved by such a large, diverse group of people."



COURTESY OF MATT DOBSON

Blake Hunter was a 2014 Spring Sing host and was the choreographer for the 2015 and 2016 shows. Hunter passed away Jan. 23, 2016.

Student Association to host prayer week for foreign countries

By Brooklyn Billner
Student Writer

The Student Association (SA) will host the second Developing Love for a Developing World event March 28 through April 1. Students, faculty and staff are invited to a week of prayer dedicated to countries around the globe.

"A member will speak about what it was like to go to that country and try to bring Christ to the people there," senior Spiritual Life Committee head Garrett Bender said. "We also have students who grew up in those

different countries, who will tell us what they saw and experienced as a Christian or becoming a Christian there, before praying over that country."

The prayer time will take place on the mapped floor of the McInteer Rotunda at 7 a.m. each day.

According to senior SA Secretary Brent Hall, each day is dedicated to a specific continent and the struggles people experience there.

"The purpose of this event is to better understand the plight of Christians in other areas of the world and how we can better pray and partner with

them," Brent Hall said. "From this, we are able to pray specifically for those countries with a better knowledge as to what is happening there."

Bender said his overall goal for this event is for students to gain awareness of world events, but also to learn to appreciate how God is working across the world.

SA President senior Kyle Johnson started Developing Love for a Developing World last spring. He said his idea was to find a time when students could come together and pray about specific areas and learn a little more

about Christians in those areas.

Senior Kelly Hall studied at Harding University in Australia and attended Developing Love for a Developing World last year. Kelly Hall said she was very excited to hear that the event was going to be continued this year.

"Coming back from overseas your heart misses those countries and people you visited," Kelly Hall said. "It was a beautiful experience to have people pray over a country that is near and dear to my heart."

According to Bender, the Spiritual Life Committee is looking forward

to student involvement this year.

"We received very positive feedback from last year and had an even bigger turn out than we expected," Bender said. "The only thing that will differ from last year's event will be the speakers, so we can possibly gain a new perspective."

One speaker will be Dr. Tim Westbrook, a Bible professor at Harding who will be sharing what it was like to live in Hungary for eight years.

Midnight Oil will provide coffee, and the SA will provide donuts.

Dawson Yates,
page 1B



HUF,
page 3A

Harding alumnus
takes new position as
assistant to the director

"The Bachelor",
page 4B

Alumna Rachel Tchen
tells about her experience
on the hit TV show

Heff,
page 2A





Women's History Month: History of Harding women

By Hannah Moore
Beat Reporter

Women's History Month is observed every March, and International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8 of each year. From Harding's early beginnings to the present day, women have played a profound role in the growth and development of the university.

From 1889 to 1933, Galloway Women's College called Searcy its home. In 1934, then-Harding College purchased the Searcy campus.

There have been 53 different women's social clubs that have existed in Harding's history, the first one being Woodson Harding Comrades (WHC). Inaugural first lady Woodson Harding Armstrong, daughter of James A. Harding and Pattie Cobb Harding, chartered the club and later served as a long-time sponsor. The oldest women's social club still in existence is Ju Go Ju (JGJ), but Zeta Rho has consistently been the largest club on campus, according to archives and special collections librarian Hannah Wood.

The May Fete was a spring festival that was traditionally celebrated by Galloway, and from 1936 to 1990, JGJ continued the tradition. As a part of these festivities, one member from

each women's social club was elected to represent her club in the winding of the May Pole. These representatives would attend 6 a.m. practices for weeks in preparation for the May Fete, often resulting in women falling asleep while rehearsing and pulling the entire pole down with them, according to Harding History House curator and Women for Harding president Debbie Howard.

Howard said that while she was a Harding student, she was chosen as Zeta Rho's representative to wind the May Pole.

"In 1976 when I was a freshman, I actually was that girl," Howard said. "Initially I thought it was a huge honor to be chosen. At the time, there was a lot of camaraderie with the different (women's) clubs. You had your streamer, and you had to take so many steps, (then) you'd raise your streamer, and somebody else would go under it, and by the time you were done, you have this pretty design wrapped around the May Pole."

The first ladies have been Woodson Harding Armstrong, Sallie Hockaday Benson, Louise Nicholas Ganus, Leah Gentry Burks and Ann Hutson McLarty.

Deborah Duke, associate

professor of mathematics and the daughter of Chancellor Emeritus Cliff Ganus and Louise Nicholas Ganus, said that a lot of the hard work that women, including her mother, did was behind the scenes.

"Nowadays we have Aramark, this wonderful Heritage building with meeting rooms and Cone Chapel; it wasn't like that back then," Duke said. "If an important visitor came from out of town to speak, say, at American Studies, dinner for them was likely to be in the first lady's home. It was up to my mother to do most of the cooking — or all of the cooking. She ended up washing a lot of the dishes, she had to clean her house; those first ladies back then played a huge role in hospitality."

According to Wood, some of the most important women on Harding's campus may not be well-known.

"I was a Harding student, and some of the women that I remember are the dorm moms and club sponsors," Wood said. "There are a lot of women whose names might not be on buildings but that had a lot of influence through the years. Those are some of the women that really make a strong impact on this campus without all that name recognition."



Courtesy of Ashel Parsons

David Crouch is retiring after 46 years of service at Harding University. Crouch spent 29 of those years as director of public relations.

Crouch retiring after 46 years

By Erin Hanson
Student Writer

After 46 years of working for Harding, and 29 in his current position as the director of public relations, David Crouch will retire at the end of March. A successor will be announced in June.

According to the office of Public Relations, Crouch will be moving to part-time at the end of March to help with the transition.

During his time at Harding, Crouch has worked with three of the five Harding presidents. He said working with great leaders and meeting people all over campus were the best parts of the job.

"I have worked for three Harding presidents, and that is time I will cherish — memories I will cherish — of working with three outstanding men of character," Crouch said. "In my position I have worked with people all across the campus, unlike some positions that deal with just a certain group of people, my work has covered the whole span of campus."

Tom Buterbaugh, assistant director of public relations, works with Crouch on a daily basis. Buterbaugh has held the same role for the past 25 years.

"(Crouch) is a true servant leader," Buterbaugh said. "I'm still working here years later because of him. He's the best boss you could ask for — he puts everyone above himself, and he truly cares about Harding. He never cares about recognition for himself — he only cares about advancing Harding and advancing the people in (the public relations) office."

Buterbaugh said Crouch has always taken an interest in his life and knows Buterbaugh's kids like they were his own.

"I think one of the most important things I have learned is the fact (that) if you hire talented people to work with you, then your office can achieve some unbelievable things," Crouch said. "I have been extremely blessed to have been able to surround myself with very talented individuals."

Senior public relations major Toria Parrett has worked in the public relations office for the past two years and said she talks to Crouch on a regular basis. "He will seek me out and ask about what's going on in my life," Parrett said. "He actually takes a personal interest in

his employees. But he also gets the job done so everyone does really good work for him, and that's the kind of mutual relationship you want with a boss."

Parrett said she hopes the new director sees the significance in the way Crouch did things, but also brings a fresh perspective and new ideas to the job. She said she hopes a new person will shake things up a bit.

Buterbaugh said he hopes Crouch's replacement will share similar values.

"I want somebody that has the same values that David Crouch had, somebody that loves Harding, that is invested in the people in this office and that wants to promote the best in everything," Buterbaugh said.

On March 11, a reception was held in the Founders Room celebrating Crouch's service.

Crouch said he looks forward to spending more time with his family and delving deeper into photography in his retirement.

"I want the new director to be better than I am — more talented, more skills and to lead the office to greater levels of achievement," Crouch said.



Courtesy of Brackett Library Archives

Winding the May Pole during spring festival May Fete was a Harding tradition from 1936 to 1990. May Fete got its roots when Searcy was home to Galloway Women's College from 1889 to 1933.

Haiti mission trip canceled due to political unrest

By Michael DeSalvo
Student Writer

Each summer, three mission teams board a plane to assist fellow Christians in the city of Cap-Haitien (Cape Haitian), Haiti. According to Ken Graves, director of Global Outreach, due to heightened political concerns in the country, the Global Outreach office has decided to cancel mission trips to Haiti this year for the safety and well-being of students and faculty.

According to Al Jazeera, a state-funded broadcast media network out of Qatar, a devastating earthquake struck the already impoverished country in 2010, and conditions have not

improved. Elections for a new president have been postponed due to violent protests.

According to Graves, three teams were going to be sent to Haiti this summer. Students and faculty from both the professional counseling and engineering programs planned to provide assistance to the churches in Cap-Haitien. Also, a group of four Harding students had plans to stay at Cap-Haitien Children's Home, provide assistance to the children and staff there, teach conversational English using the Bible and help congregations in the Cap-Haitien region for a month.

"Elections have been postponed (three times), and

I would have been sending all three teams right when they plan to install a new president in the summer," Graves said. "If there ever was to be a time for political instability and chaos, I think that would be the most dangerous time to go. I don't want to put any of my teams in that kind of jeopardy."

Along with the professional counseling and engineering programs, four students, including junior Tiffany Beck, planned to go to Haiti this summer through Global Outreach.

"About a month ago, we were told we couldn't go to Haiti due to security concerns," Beck said. "I was in the middle of class when I got the news that we couldn't go. The day the Haiti trip was canceled, missionaries from Ukraine asked Ken Graves if they could host a group for the first time... We will be doing various things for the newly established church there."

Stephanie O'Brian, director of Academic Resources and assistant director of Stampede, began going to Haiti in 2012.

She said she was inspired to go when Todd Patten, associate professor of education, asked some of his fellow students and colleagues if they would join him to assist Christians in Haiti. She agreed and has been going every summer since.

"Nothing fills my soul and my spirit more than being there with those beautiful children of God and getting to worship the same God as them," O'Brian said. "The night Todd (Patten) called me and told me there was a good chance we couldn't go to Haiti, I cathartically cried, because I feel closest to God when I'm there. It is 100 percent fragile in Haiti on an already broken and fragile system. For us to go to Cap-Haitien when they are supposed to be transitioning to a new president is highly dangerous for us. It would put the people we love so much and already have such deep relationships, because we go there every year, in danger."

According to Graves, the four students who had work planned in Haiti will instead focus their efforts on Ukraine



Courtesy of Tiffany Beck

Amid political unrest centered around a presidential election, summer mission trips to Haiti have been canceled. Instead, a group will travel to Ukraine to complete its mission work.

SWITCH
without a hitch!

When you bank with us,
you are investing in
your community!



FIRST COMMUNITY BANK

Where community comes first.

2401 W. Beebe Capps Expy. • 800 E. Beebe Capps Expy. • 2801 E. Race St.



Who answers for the night?

john phillip baker

guest
writer



Maybe you've seen the movie. If you're dedicated, maybe you've read the book. If you're lucky, maybe you've seen the play. It's pre-revolution France, 1796, and Jean Valjean steals a loaf of bread to feed his family. Nineteen years later he wanders a true vagabond — no work, no food, no shelter. The audience properly understands Valjean as the victim, not the perpetrator, of an unspeakable crime — unspeakable because it is uncomfortable to mention, unspeakable because few are willing to admit they are part of the problem and implicate all of society in the fate of a man like Jean Valjean.

Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" compels us, often tearfully, to face the realities of a society that ignores its most vulnerable members. His main characters are caught between a scarcity of work and an abundance of punishment that masquerades as "justice" and "the law" and perhaps as "progress." He sums up the problem with the following lament:

"In our civilization there are fearful times when the law wrecks a man. How mournful

the moment when society draws back and permits the irreparable loss of a sentient being."

Hugo wrote from what he witnessed in 19th-century France. But the tale of miserable people, their very survival caught in the margins between poverty and punishment, is no less relevant in 21st-century America. We have our tired, our poor, our huddled masses yearning to breathe free. We have them not on some distant teeming shore as described by the Statue of Liberty, but everywhere among us.

American prisoners numbered 2,220,300 in 2013, about 20 percent of the world's prison population. Those on parole and probation were another 4,751,400. Altogether, 2.8 percent of U.S. adults were under correctional supervision — that's 1 in 35. How did the land of the free become the most incarcerated nation in the world? For many Americans, the story of "Les Miserables" — vulnerable citizens struggling against an aggressively "just" society — is not just a story. There are still fearful times when the law wrecks a man and allows the irreparable loss of a sentient being.

Maybe you've heard John Oliver, on YouTube or HBO, describe in somehow hilarious detail the deep inconsistencies of our over-incarcerated society. If you're dedicated, maybe you've been to the prisons — maybe you've ministered to a broken spirit or know lives ruined systematically by forces

beyond their control. If you're lucky, maybe you know someone who, like Jean Valjean, miraculously overcame their circumstances to rebuild a life after what seemed like an irreparable loss.

Or you might be tempted to separate the concept of an American prisoner from that of Jean Valjean. Valjean, after all, was hardly guilty of a crime at all. You can imagine — if you so trust our criminal justice system — that most of our prisoners are locked away for far worse than stealing a loaf of bread to feed a starving family. Far be it from me to change your imagination. But if you're a Christian, you understand that the concept of guilt has little to do with the concept of mercy, except to increase it.

I have little space to offer solutions here, only space to encourage you to begin looking for those solutions. If you aren't sure where to start, Hugo's work contains another hint:

"Teach the ignorant as much as you can; society is culpable in not providing a free education for all and it must answer for the night which it produces. If the soul is left in darkness, sins will be committed. The guilty one is not he who commits the sin, but he who causes the darkness."

JOHN PHILLIP BAKER is a guest writer for the Bison. He may be contacted at jbaker11@harding.edu.

joshua johnson

don't mind me...



Time to talk Trump

For the past nine months, a surefire escape phrase has gotten me out of political discussions. My friends will tell you that I hate conflict, despise politics and do my very best to abstain from ever voicing an opinion on the race to the Oval Office.

What has been my strategy? A simple shrug, accompanied by this demure, barely audible sentence: "You know, worse things could happen than Donald Trump."

So far it has worked quite well. Autopilot brings this familiar phrase to my mouth any time political debate rears its divisive head, and I have avoided many a quarrel by displaying an attitude of apathy — with a sprinkle of nonchalance — in the face of conflict. In the past nine months, no matter what has spewed from the mouth of this billionaire Independent cloaked in Republican garb, I have held my ground.

On June 16, 2015, Trump infamously proposed his plan for a new Great Wall, with which to keep the "drug dealers and rapists" from Mexico at bay.

Eh, worse things could happen than Donald Trump.

On June 28, 2015, Trump went on CNN to clarify his previous statements by saying that he "loves the Mexican people and does business with the Mexican people," but at the same time, those people are coming from all over, and they are "bad. They're really bad."

Still, worse things could happen than Donald Trump.

On Aug. 6, 2015, Trump faced the fury of feminists when he implied that debate moderator Megyn Kelly's "ridiculous questions" were a result of her menstruation. "You could see there was blood coming out of her eyes," Trump said. "Blood coming out of her wherever."

Could have been a misunderstanding, right? Right. Worse things could happen than Donald Trump.

On Sept. 9, 2015, in an interview with Rolling Stone, Trump mocked the physical appearance of former candidate Carly Fiorina, saying he could not imagine anyone voting for "that face."

As someone who believes that Fiorina is a very beautiful woman, as well as someone who simply acknowledges the individual beauty of all women, I was put out by this comment. But it's still safe to say that worse things could happen than Donald Trump.

Megyn Kelly may have thought her interactions with Trump would be minimal and impersonal after their first falling out. However, last Friday on Twitter, Trump called for a boycott of Kelly's Fox News show, saying that it is "never worth watching," and she is "sick and the most overrated person on TV."

There comes a point in which, after I have said something over and over again, even I can no longer believe it. Because here's the nugget of wisdom in all this: if I have to repeat the same pacifistic statement for months on end, it is probably because I can't quite convince myself that it is true.

I have been taken for a ride of sorts. I have spent a long time avoiding conflict by shrugging off a situation much more serious than I would allow it to be in my mind. Don't get me wrong; worse things could happen than Donald Trump. There could be floods. There could be fires. Someone could steal the filling from every Hot Pocket in the world, leaving us biting into empty carbohydrates.

But this is no excuse to ignore the obvious. Some people are fit, or at least competent, or at least marginally qualified, to lead a nation. Some people are not.

I think we know in which category Trump belongs.

JOSHUA JOHNSON is the opinions editor for the Bison. He may be contacted at jjohnson4@harding.edu. Twitter: @joshjohnson146

FACES IN THE CROWD

"WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DECADE?"

Annie Nabors,
Freshman

Tyler Adams,
Freshman

Peter Addy,
Junior

Audrey Hodges,
Sophomore



"The '60s because of 'Hairspray.' But I am anti-segregation."



"I like the '40s because it was a time of change for our country. We were actually proud of our country then."



"The '80s because of the music."



"This is my favorite decade. I appreciate what I have now."

Harding Housing 101

lexi bybee

guest
writer



I can still remember the first day of move-in and how welcoming the grand, white doors of Pattie Cobb Hall looked. It was my sophomore year of college and first year at Harding. I had been randomly assigned a roommate and was pleasantly surprised to find her normal and relatable to my personality.

Picking out housing seems simple, right? Through my experiences here at Harding, I can confirm that a good deal of thought goes into it. After multiple roommates, switching housing every semester and factoring meal plans into the mix, I have put together a short crash course to hopefully aid in the process.

The standard dormitories are where most students their years in college. Though before college we hear horror stories about dorm life, it is definitely an experience that everyone should have.

The greatest benefit I have found from living in a dorm is the chance to meet new people. My first year in Pattie Cobb, my roommate and I had our door open constantly just waiting for others to drop

in and say "hi." Curfew worked out to my advantage, and I got to meet a ton of my friends from having late-night dance parties in their rooms.

After two years of living in a dorm, however, an apartment starts to sound appealing. You are growing up and are ready to move on to the next step. An apartment will give the luxury of a kitchen and a living room. A kitchen? That means less cafeteria food and more home-cooked. Having a living room helps to make it feel homier as well. After living in a dorm, getting to go back to my apartment after class and sprawl out on a couch was so much more appealing than having to jump up on my top bunk in a cramped dorm room.

While most of the apartment-style dorms still have curfew, they give a lot more leeway on things and help move you closer to being a full-on self-supporting adult. There is also an option for single rooms, so if you are tired of having a roommate, that is a good way to go.

Speaking of roommates, choosing a roommate is one of the most important factors when considering housing. College is hectic to begin with, and throwing in a roommate who has opposite views or personality tends to make things messier.

My dad used to always tell me never to room with my best friend. I ignored his warning and went ahead and did it anyway.

He could not have been more right. Spending copious amounts of time with someone who has a different sleeping schedule, temperature and routine could throw you over the edge.

It is important to choose someone that has the same sleep schedule. If you prefer to go to bed early, having a night-owl roommate will be the bane of your existence. It is also important to find someone that meshes with your personality and has similar views. The last thing anyone wants to do is argue every day with a roommate.

Keep in mind other qualities such as cleanliness levels, temperature preferences and communication methods. Don't be afraid to lay down the law on what they can take and what is strictly yours. Though it may seem overboard to talk about all of this before rooming together, it is important to spot a red flag early so that you are not killing yourself over it the rest of the semester.

After some thought, housing can look a little intimidating, but fear not. Paying attention to the qualities above can help tremendously. (Today is March 25, and it is time to go in for housing meetings. Pray about it, and everything will be just fine. Best of luck, friends.)

LEXI BYBEE is a student writer for the Bison. She may be contacted at abybee@harding.edu.

staff

Zach Hailey
editor-in-chief

Kaleb Turner
news editor

David Salley
sports editor

Savanna DiStefano
features editor

Joshua Johnson
opinions editor

Caleb Rowan
asst. sports editor

Jesse Hixson
business manager

Rachel Brackins
head copy editor

Phoebe Cunningham
asst. copy editor

Melissa Hite
editorial asst.

Rachel Gibson
illustrator/asst. graphics

Hunter Beck
head web editor

Chris Connell
asst. web editor

Haley Burkhead
asst. web editor

Amanda Floyd
head photographer

Brittney Garringer
asst. photographer

Emily Eason
asst. photographer

Sawyer Hite
head graphic designer

Hannah Moore
beat reporter

Jordan Doyle
beat reporter

Alex Valdes
multimedia editor

Chance Gowan
asst. multimedia editor

Mitchell Brooks
asst. multimedia editor

Samantha Shepherd
pr/marketing director

Katie Ramirez
faculty adviser

guest writers

Michael Claxton
Brooke Kehl

John Phillip Baker
Sarah Dixon

Lexi Bybee
Brooklyn Billner

Erin Hanson
Abby Kilgore

Michael DeSalvo
Lauren Hargett



OPINIONS

4A | Friday, March 25, 2016

zach hailey



hailey to
the chief

The beautiful '70s and '80s

Throughout the academic year, my column has reflected on history. From Napoleonic wars to men of character who laid the first train tracks, there is so much to learn from those who lived decades ago. However, the dawn of the 1970s was over 40 years ago. As much as those who were raised in the '70s and '80s would like to deny that their childhood is now considered "history," I believe that enough time has passed to look at some of the wonderful, whimsical creations of their time. In light of "Retro-Bution," here are the greatest creations of the '70s and '80s.

Mork & Mindy: Mork & Mindy aired from 1978 to 1982 and starred Pam Dawber and Robin Williams. For those of you who haven't been graced to view this show, Mork & Mindy followed the lives of Mork (Williams), an extraterrestrial who lands on earth and Mindy (Dawber), his human roommate. This was Williams' first gig and, although the show was great in itself, it was Williams' gateway into the industry. God bless Mork & Mindy.

The DeLorean: Whoever thought stainless steel would look good boxed around a motor is a genius. The pointy edges on this iconic car are still recognized today due to the sensational film "Back to the Future." Being a "car guy" myself, let's talk about the specs on this bad boy: they are terrible. This is a car you don't want to buy. The car was released with a load of problems, which were fixed around 1982, but by that point, the reputation of the steel beauty was already in the tank. Speaking of terrible design...

The Power Glove: Released in 1989, The Power Glove was designed by Abrams/Gentile Entertainment and made by Mattel. This monster to plugged into your Nintendo Entertainment System and promised to "make you one with the game" — at least that's what they intended. This thing was pure trash. In the advertisement (which might just be the best part of this atrocity. I highly recommend looking it up on YouTube), they couldn't even get the glove to work correctly. The idea was ahead of its time, but it's safe to say the glove was a critical failure.

The Best Rock n' Roll the World Has Ever Seen: I really don't have to sell this at all. With artists like The Rolling Stones, Queen, The Who, Aerosmith, I don't know — The Beatles? Eagles, Led Zeppelin, Van Halen, Guns N' Roses, Bon Jovi, AC/DC and Boston, you honestly can't go wrong. I could fill this entire article with legends from the music industry. Thanks for defining our culture for the next century.

Popularizing Terrible Facial Hair: Handlebar mustaches, chops and anything Tom Selleck did to his face helped bring overwhelming acceptance to iconic facial hair to pop culture. I'm not sure if there was an underground oath that all men swore to abide by stating that they would only shave 40 percent of their face at a time, but it seems that in the '70s and '80s this was the case. These men braved the frontier of facial hair for the coming generation — we salute you.

ZACH HAILEY is the editor-in-chief for the *Bison*. He may be contacted at zhailey@harding.edu.
Twitter: @zach_hailey



illustration by RACHEL GIBSON

Surrendering, piece by piece

melissa hite



guest
writer

Around this time six years ago, as a 15-year-old on fire for evangelicalism, I posted something I'd written on my blog: a scathing diatribe against Lent, the practice (originating in the Catholic church) of fasting from something for the 40 days prior to Easter. Like most 15-year-olds, I hadn't taken the time to understand the position I was condemning; I was just parroting arguments I'd heard from others. For one thing, Lent isn't specifically prescribed by the Bible, which in my mind settled the matter. But if that wasn't convincing enough, Lent, I said, marked a failure to appreciate the gravity of Christ's sacrifice. Do we really think that giving up chocolate for 40 days can repay the debt we owe to Jesus for our salvation?

As it turns out, I missed the point completely. The Lenten season is not so much about atonement for sins as it is about the attempt to loosen sin's grip on our lives and grow closer to God — which is why, six years later, I'm finishing my first experience with Lent.

If you know me at all, you know that I love my Twitter. (Even if you don't know me at all, you might know that I love my Twitter.) I pride myself on having a quick wit — keyword "pride" — and on Twitter, I show it off. I love being funny, and, more importantly, I love for other people to think I'm funny.

I'm not here to tell you not to use social media; if you have the right perspective on it, social media is very good. But for me, Twitter acted as an outlet for my obsession with what others think of me. So I decided to give up Twitter for Lent — not because I had to, not because I thought that doing so was somehow ample compensation for Jesus' death, but because I needed to check my pride at the door.

As Christians, we are to give ourselves over to God completely, but I think it's unrealistic for us to believe that total sacrifice happens all

at once. In the moment we choose to follow Christ, we declare our genuine intention to surrender ourselves, but the rest of our lives are bound up in the long, slow work of surrendering — piece by piece, moment by moment, vice by vice. Lent asks us to make one step in that long journey: to isolate one of our flaws, target its footholds in our lives and systematically starve it out.

I'm not trying to convert you to Catholicism, and I certainly don't mean to imply that Lent is something God requires. But perhaps in our attempt to be distinct in our Christianity, we discount worthwhile spiritual disciplines simply because they're unfamiliar to us. A good idea, even one that doesn't originate in our faith tradition, is a good idea, and how could a sacrifice in pursuit of a purer heart possibly be a bad idea?

MELISSA HITE is the editorial assistant for the *Bison*. She may be contacted at mhite@harding.edu.

Interested in writing a guest column?

Contact Joshua Johnson at jjohnson4@harding.edu.

Just the
Clax

Blood, sweat and Cool Whip



michael
claxton

It's not often that the idea for a column literally hits me in the face. But last week I went to my first "Pie the Professor" charity event. The math department was celebrating March 14 — you know, Pi Day — and somehow I got mixed up in all the hoopla. In case you've forgotten high school geometry, pi is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, a number that always works out to 3.1415, etc.

Naturally the celebrations were kicked up a notch in 2015, when Pi Day fell on the actual calendar date of 3/14/15. Math departments all over the world really let loose over that one. Granted, some have made the argument that since the next number in the sequence is a 9, then the 5 should be rounded up. Ergo, they say the ultimate Pi Day was in fact last week on 3/14/16. This is the sort of thing mathematicians argue about on big math holidays.

So there I was, on the list to get a pie in the face for charity. I agreed, on the condition that I got to choose the type of pie. I wanted to be sure that frozen lemon icebox was not an option. After all, if I'm going to have my nose broken, I want a better answer to the question, "Hey, what happened?" But as it turns out, the only choice was canned whipped cream on a paper plate. Frankly I was hoping for French silk but was in no position to make demands.

So I went to the front lawn on Monday and found the math department's booth, where faculty volunteers were already waiting the pie-throwing mob. That's when I realized that I was overdressed. Apparently, the recommended attire for getting hit with a cream pie is a T-shirt and jeans. Instead I walked over in my usual work uniform — a blue blazer, button-down Oxford shirt and a tie that's 40 years out of style. No one else

had dressed up, though Cliff Ganus III (that's the other half of Cliff and Clax) claimed to be in his "nice gray pants." I didn't want to argue, so I just nodded.

But even T-shirts are not impervious to whipped cream, so all the volunteers were offered black plastic garbage bags to step into, as a kind of triple-flex force field. I didn't want to throw away my life like that, so I declined. I thought of the millionaire Benjamin Guggenheim putting on a top hat and tails as the "Titanic" sank and saying he would go down as a gentleman.

The wisdom of my refusal was confirmed when Dr. Ganus put on his giant Hefty bag, which covered him from the neck down. If he had painted his face blue, he would have looked like a recently opened bag of M&Ms. The heckling was so strong that — in a fit of machismo — he clenched his fists, ripped the bag from his body and yelled, "Bring it on!"

The drama of the moment might have been more thrilling had there been more than four students lined up to throw pies. It was hardly ancient Rome packed into the arena, but we milked the situation for all it was worth just the same. The line-up included Drs. Jim Miller, Ron Smith, James Burk, Gary Jackson, Cliff and Clax, and Harding's president, Dr. Bruce McLarty. The students had to stand behind a boundary to throw their pies so they wouldn't get too close. The

line, incidentally, was marked by a piece of string taped to two plastic cups. I believe it was the exact same type of barricade they put in front of the lions in the Coliseum.

As we expected, Dr. McLarty drew the most fire, even though students had to shell out \$5 for the privilege. Yet before it was all over, we all got a face full of Cool Whip. If someone had only thought to bring some cucumbers for our eyes, we could have looked like those women at the beauty spa. There was much silly banter, but the best line came from Dr. Ganus, who said — and I quote — "When you get whipped cream in your nose, it's hard to know what to do."

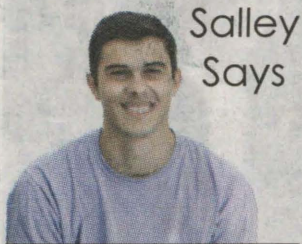
The funniest moment of the afternoon, though, came courtesy of a 3-year-old boy who had been brought along to stick a pie in his father's face. When the little chap was handed a plate full of Reddi-Wip, he marched over to where his dad was sitting. He looked up at dad, and then down at his plate. He looked at his dad again, and then the plate again, at which point he sat down and started to eat the cream pie, wondering — I'm sure — why he should waste a perfectly good dessert.

When all the students had finished venting their fury, our Band of Pie Brothers dispersed, each crawling away to lick his wounds. I got in my car and drove straight to the dry cleaners. As I staggered in with my blazer and necktie covered in whipped cream, I shouted, "I have a dry-cleaning emergency here!" I had always wanted an excuse to say that. It wasn't quite "Stop the presses!" But still. No doubt it will be a day long remembered at the cleaners.

Would you believe me if I told you the bill was \$3.14?

MICHAEL CLAXTON is a guest writer for the *Bison*. He may be contacted at mclaxto1@harding.edu.

At the *Bison*, it is our goal to serve the Harding University student body with integrity, truth and open ears. However, we believe that meeting that goal is a two-way street between our staff and the public it serves. We pledge to keep our eyes and ears open to what our community has to say and hope that, in return, that community will be an interactive audience, sharing its stories with us. We also pledge to do the basics: Report accurate and relevant information, check our facts, and share them in a professional, timely manner. If you have any story ideas, questions, comments or concerns for the *Bison* staff, please email Zach Hailey, the editor-in-chief, at zhailey@harding.edu. "The *Bison* (USPS 577-660) is published weekly (except vacations, exams and summer sessions), 20 issues per year, by Harding University. Periodicals postage paid at Searcy, Arkansas 72143. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Bison*, Harding University 11192, SEARCY, AR 72149-0001." BYLINE POLICY: The *Bison* provides an opportunity for class writers to contribute work under the byline "guest writers." Due to this arrangement, staff writers may rewrite a portion of the guest writers' stories as they deem necessary, while still identifying the work as the guest writers' own.



Salley Says

Forget the bracket

We are officially into the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament, which means a couple of things. First, it means that we're going to start getting a lot more of Verne Lundquist — love that guy. Second, it means that the best part of the tournament is already behind us, unfortunately. (It's true. The first weekend is easily the best part of the tournament, and if you think otherwise, you're wrong.) And lastly, but most importantly, it means it is time to stop being the guy who is still concerned about his bracket.

Simply put, if you don't have a dog in the fight for the Big Dance, if your bracket isn't 100 percent perfect or ranked number one in whatever tournament pool you're in, you need to be cheering for the best story possible depending on who is left in the field. There's no reasonable defense for doing otherwise unless you fall into those first two categories. You need to be losing your mind on the edge of your seat pulling for the lowest seeded teams remaining to go as far as possible. Don't be the guy who is still pulling for his bracket. I promise, your bracket is not that good.

Let me give you an example. My national champion pick in my official, "turn-it-in-to-win-money" bracket was Michigan State. They had Tom Izzo and Denzel Valentine — they weren't going down until at least the Elite Eight. It was as safe a pick as you could make... until they got blasted by 15-seed MTSU in the first round. In literally one day, I was done, but that's the beauty of the tournament; at that point, who the heck cares? A 15-seed just beat Michigan State! I was pulling for them against my bracket while it was happening, because it's the NCAA Tournament and that's what you're supposed to do. If you aren't pulling for a 15-seed to upset the 2-seed, even against your bracket, why are you even watching? I shouldn't have to explain why you do that — you just do it.

This is America; we cheer for the underdog here. Start randomly pulling for schools you've never heard of. My Friday and Saturday team was Arkansas-Little Rock. My Sunday team was Stephen F. Austin until they lost. Then it became VCU. Then it became Northern Iowa. If you're truly a fan of college basketball, your allegiance should be to the goofy-looking ginger kid from a school in South Dakota who pulls up from three when he should take the layup. Your allegiance should be to the Bryce Drews, Ali Farokhmaneshes, George Masons and Butlers of the world. Your allegiance, especially now that we're in the Sweet 16, should not be to your bracket, because if it still is at this point, you are the worst kind of person.

DAVID SALLEY is the sports editor for the Bison. He may be contacted at dsalley@harding.edu. Twitter: @dsalley24

Caleb Rowan

Asst. Sports Editor

The Harding men's and women's track teams competed in their first outdoor meet of the year on March 18 and 19 at the Rhodes Invitational in Memphis, Tennessee. Five athletes secured 1st place finishes between the two teams, including a school-record 184 foot, 9 inch discus throw by junior Josh Syrotchen, which automatically qualified him for the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May.

Syrotchen said that since he is right-handed, the strong winds coming from his left on the day of the meet gave him a disadvantage. Because of the tricky conditions, he was surprised to qualify in the first meet of the year.

"I went in knowing that I've

been working pretty hard and that I was going to get a good result, but I wasn't expecting the (record)," Syrotchen said. "In our workouts we had really just been trying to build a base, so it was nice to throw better than I expected with the weather the way it was."

Also victorious at the meet was senior Donatella Luckett, who won the 100 meters in 10.75 seconds. Luckett also placed 5th in the 200 meters.

According to Luckett, the weekend's results serve as a good starting point for the team as they continue to improve with the Great American Conference (GAC) meet coming up in May.

"(The meet) was a great benchmark for everyone, and it was the first one, so we all know where

we stand now," Luckett said. "I definitely feel like I have a lot more work to do — I need more endurance — so knowing where I am, I can work harder from there."

Rounding out the winners from the men's team was junior Trey Adkison, who earned his fifth career victory in the pole vault. For the women's team, junior Sylvie Mueller took home the 3,000-meter steeplechase and seniors Kelsey Taylor, Tammy Kim, Dallas Bailey and sophomore Madison Drennan won the 4x800 relay.

Luckett said seeing the success of his teammates in other events encourages him to compete even harder.

"When you see somebody else do (good) work, you want to do the same," Luckett said. "Everybody

builds off everybody, so if we start off in long distance and they kill it, it just builds from there."

Head coach Steve Guymon said he was impressed by what he saw, considering it was the teams' first meet of the season. He said there are improvements to be made but that he feels confident going forward.

"I saw a lot of really great things, but there are definitely things we need to improve on," Guymon said. "The coaches voted the men and the women to win the conference, and we believe we can. There are some tough teams out there, but we feel we can compete with the best."

The men's and women's teams will both compete next at the Harding Invitational in a dual meet with Southern Arkansas University on April 2.



AMANDA FLOYD | THE BISON

Men's basketball and the Harding community have been big influences on senior basketball player Dawson Yates' life. Yates became a Christian during his first year at Harding in the 2014-2015 school year.

Yates finds faith, family at Harding

By David Salley

Sports Editor

While many people are adopted early in life, Harding senior basketball player Dawson Yates has already experienced the feeling three times: by his parents, by Harding and by God.

Adopted at birth by his parents, James and Robyn, Yates grew up in Harrison, Arkansas, where he said basketball influenced him early on. To Yates, the game fueled friendships for a young boy who didn't otherwise have them.

"Basketball got me my first real friends," Yates said. "I didn't really have friends until basketball came. It created toughness in me — it created integrity."

The love Yates showed to the game growing up was reciprocated, and even though he received no college offers after high school, basketball eventually led him to Northwest Arkansas College (NAC), where he was allowed to walk-on. It was there that, while driving together one afternoon, Yates' NAC teammate Javon Wallace struck up a strange conversation. Wallace asked "Dawson, when you ask yourself a question, who answers it?" Confused, but willing to have the discussion, Yates told him that it was a person's subconscious — to which Wallace responded, "No, it's God."

The discussion stirred Yates' thinking, and, with that seed planted in his mind, he began to attend church with Wallace regularly. He found himself drawn in as questions began to fill his thoughts, but he still struggled internally with what he was hearing every Sunday. Although he had always had the opportunity to attend, church was

not a part of Yates' life growing up; his parents wanted him to either pursue religion or not pursue it on his own.

What Yates had already decided to pursue, though, was a spot on Harding's basketball team. After tagging along with Wallace on a try-out to the school, Yates was given the opportunity to walk-on and play for the Bisons during the 2014-15 season. It was an experience he almost didn't get the chance to have.

One morning, while driving home, Yates fell asleep at the wheel. He woke up in a ditch to a mangled truck — but two completely unharmed front seats.

"I woke up, and I was in the ditch, and I popped out and was completely fine," Yates said. "So I looked in my car, and the two front seats were fine, and the rest of the car was destroyed. I guess I looked at the sky because I figured heaven was up there, and I was like, 'Oh my... God is so real.'"

After walking away from his accident with renewed belief, Yates enrolled at Harding in the fall, set to begin the second stint of his college basketball career. However, despite his new outlook, things did not immediately click once he got to campus.

"I was still defiant a little bit," Yates said. "It was still all so new to me. I didn't know what the red words in the Bible were — I just didn't know, and I didn't know the magnitude of it."

Even with his internal struggles, Yates slowly began to connect with his teammates on a level deeper than basketball. Lifelong friend senior Blake McNair, along with

seniors Jacob Gibson and John Hudson, junior Will Francis and "locker buddy" sophomore Reggie Anthony, began to discuss, as a group, how they could be used as God's instruments from day to day. The more the team talked and spent time together, the more Yates began to understand both Christianity and the Harding community.

"I got (good examples) from different perspectives every day," Yates said. "I've got Blake (McNair) being the older brother that doesn't take nothin', John (Hudson) is a great example, Will (Francis) just walks the path so well, me and Gib (Jacob Gibson) are just fighting to get a little bit better every day, and then I see Reggie (Anthony) come from a place that he's come from, and me from the place that I've come from, and we've both just toughed it out."

One of those good examples was that of Bisons' head coach Jeff Morgan, with whom Yates has a loving but complex relationship. Yates tells the story of a day when he walked into Morgan's office before practice and happily asked for a hug — only to be turned down, but then promptly given his hug after practice.

"There have been so many days where we butt heads," Yates said. "He gets so mad at me, it's unreal. But I think he understands that we are both on this level of competition. We both see the bigger goal, and I think we're both down to do whatever it takes to get there. Even if he wasn't my coach, there's so much I would have learned from him."

Morgan and Yates' close relationship, as well as bonds he built with assistant coach Ray Lynn Woods,

head trainer Ronnie Harlow and the other members of his 2014 recruiting class, were just more steps in the right direction, and before long, there were two adoptions in Yates' life: that of his parents and that of his school and his teammates. Both, Yates said, are his family now; and it was that family of Bisons that finally convinced him it was time to take the step of faith he had been searching for since his days at NAC.

"I felt the Spirit just take over me," Yates said. "I had seen God knocking on the door and throwing me signals over and over again so many times in my life. That was the moment that I just accepted it. I'm so blessed. I got lucky — I got adopted to this place, and then I got adopted to the Lord."

Yates was baptized on April 13, 2015, surrounded by his teammates and coaches as he experienced adoption into the family of Christ. While he may not have played the most in-game minutes, Yates' Harding experience is one of a far greater variety: it is an experience that will last eternally.

And although his career between the baselines has now officially ended; he knows that what he gained from his time at Harding will carry on far after he leaves his locker for the final time.

"Bisons basketball has given me a better outlook," Yates said. "I've met so many good people and built so many relationships, but Bisons basketball has also taught me that what I want to be is not important. What's important is putting yourself second. It has taught me not to be a student-athlete, but a Christian student-athlete."



COURTESY OF JEFF MONTGOMERY

Senior infielder Kinsey Beck (27) is greeted at home plate by the rest of the Lady Bisons softball team during the 4-2 win over Ouachita Baptist University on Feb. 27 in Searcy, Arkansas. The Lady Bisons won three games in the series against first-place Southeastern Oklahoma State University last weekend.

Softball takes series from unbeaten SOSU

By Sarah Dixon
Student Writer

The Lady Bisons softball team continued its climb in the Great American Conference with another series win on the road on March 19-20 at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma.

The weekend was vital for the team to move up in the conference rankings, according to junior outfielder Courtney Derrick.

"Any time in our conference you can go on the road and win a series, you feel like you're on the right track," head

coach Phil Berry said. "The team is doing pretty well right now to get competitive in the conference."

On Saturday, March 19, the Lady Bisons swept the Savage Storm 6-3 and 7-4 to give SOSU its first two GAC losses of the season. During the first game, Harding started off by scoring four runs on four hits in the first inning. The Lady Bisons also got off to a great start in the second game when junior catcher Kimmy Hendricks hit a double to right center to score Derrick from second.

"I believe that we're growing

each week and becoming more of a team," Hendricks said. "We're all figuring it out and buying into the process that we've committed to."

This process involves the team focusing on one pitch at a time, according to Berry. "You get into the middle of the season and start to pile up stats and records, but sometimes we get so focused on that and forget to focus on the quality of each pitch and each play," Berry said. "(The coaches) tell them, 'Just play this pitch. Whatever happens, let that go, learn from it, release it and refocus on the

next pitch.'"

On Sunday, March 20, the Lady Bisons won the first game 10-1 but dropped the second 8-7, winning the weekend series 3-1. Harding had a season-high 18 hits in the first game but fell short of victory in the second game despite tallying 12 more hits.

Having only played four games at home this season, the Lady Bisons have gotten accustomed to being on the road. According to Berry, the team has had to play more away games than they originally expected. The series against Southern Nazarene

University on March 13-14 had to be moved due to rain.

"We are always so excited to play at home, and it seems like we haven't gotten to do that a lot lately," Derrick said. "Winning a series on someone else's home field is a challenge, so it made the wins that much sweeter."

The Lady Bisons are now 22-10 overall and 14-6 in the GAC. They will play at home for the first conference series in over three weeks starting at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, March 25, and noon and 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, against East Central University.

Lady Bisons golf takes ninth place in first tournament

By Abby Kilgore
Student Writer

The women's golf team played its first tournament of the season at the Dancing Rabbit Intercollegiate Tournament in Philadelphia, Mississippi. It was a two-day tournament on March 14 and 15.

The Lady Bisons placed ninth overall, and freshman Delaney Bowles was the team's leading scorer, placing 36th overall. In the 54-hole tournament, with ladies playing two rounds on

Monday and one round on Tuesday, the team's final round score was 371.

Sophomore Kaleigh Ramey said this was the first time they have played at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club. She said the course was muddy, and there was talented competition.

Ramey finished 48th overall and said she is hopeful for the upcoming season. Ramey said now that the team is settled in, she is excited for the rigors of the spring season.

"It is a really mental sport," Ramey said. "I am competing against other people and myself."

Sophomore Katelyn Walker said this was a good tournament to start the season. She said it gave the players a lot of time on course and helped them see what skills they need to improve.

She said the spring season is always more hectic, but she loves getting ready for the long string of tournaments.

"Golf is a re-focusing time

for me," Walker said. "It is a time to get away without my phone and other distractions."

According to Howell, the team played like "warriors" from sun-up until sundown at the tournament with no breaks for lunch.

This is Howell's first season coaching the women's team, and he said he sees a lot of potential. Howell said there are not any seniors on the team, so the team is focused on meeting personal goals for the future right now.

The Lady Bisons will have five tournaments this spring, including the Great American Conference Tournament, in which the team is projected to finish eighth. Howell said the tournaments are mentally and physically exhausting, so he is proud of the way the women step up to the challenge.

The women will compete next at the Argonaut Invitational in Pace, Florida, on April 4. It will be the first of four tournaments within the month of April.

LOCKERTALK

Our Athletes' Views on Pop Culture

questions

	Noah Chandler Baseball	Donatella Luckett Track	Hannah Johnson Softball	Neto Cacace Tennis	Jacob Stripling Baseball
What would your ideal Easter egg have inside it?		Of course, growing up, every child wanted to find the prize egg that had money inside.	Money and Reese's eggs.	A flight to any destination in the world.	A new car.
Song you hope is featured in Spring Sing?	"Benny and the Jets" by Elton John.	"Hello" by Adele.	"My House" by Flo Rida.	Some song by Justin Bieber.	Try something new. Silent Spring Sing. No music.
The best cartoon you watched as a kid?	"Rocket Power."	"CatDog."	"Dragon Tales."	"Bobby's World" was pretty great.	Parents made me work. Had no time for television.
Your room stinks, what do you do to improve the smell?	Febreze.	Glade tropical fruit candle.	Pink Sands candle from Yankee Candle.	Dramatic.	Nose plugs.



Alumnus becomes assistant to the director for HUF

By Kaleb Turner
News Editor

After studying at Harding University in Florence (HUF) in the fall of 2012 and getting a taste for Italian culture, 2015 Harding graduate and Harding native Grant Schol is returning to HUF as assistant to the director.

Schol said he is eager to begin the position and, though nervous about the transition, is excited to help students learn and experience things beyond Searcy, Arkansas.

“(Searcy) is not the whole world,” Schol said. “There’s this huge world out there with billions of people and hundreds of countries, each with their own set of beliefs and cultures. They’re all so different from ours, and I want people to experience something beyond what they’ve known their whole life.”

Dr. Jeff Hopper, dean of International Programs, said Schol brings many strengths to the table for this position. Hopper highlighted Schol’s creativity, hard-working spirit and connection with people as essential to his new role.

“I think that Grant (Schol) has the ability to read people — to understand their motivations and their challenges,” Hopper said. “He will understand when a student is having a hard time and be sensitive to their needs. I expect that everyone who leaves HUF will have Grant as a mentor and a friend if they will just allow it.”

Schol’s experience as a photographer and his roots in communication are also important skills to have as assistant to the director, according to Robbie Shackelford, director of HUF.



COURTESY OF GRANT SCHOL

2015 alumnus Grant Schol, new assistant to the director for Harding University in Florence (HUF), stands outside the Harding villa on March 23. Schol will begin his new position July 1.

“(Schol) is a talented photographer and will help us in the visual advertising and promoting of the HUF program,” Shackelford said.

Schol said he looks forward to bringing those photography, communication and design skills not just to HUF, but all of Harding’s European programs.

“My skills will allow me to tell the story of HUF like I don’t think anyone else has ever done before,” Schol said.

Both Hopper and Shackelford commended Schol’s participation and involvement while a student at HUF and said that those experiences will prepare him for connecting with students and fulfilling his duties as assistant to the director.

According to Shackelford, Schol’s role is demanding but fun and will allow Schol to be involved in all facets of HUF — orientation, on-site classes, travel, cleaning, speaking and more.

“In going to HUF as a student and learning so much about the world and myself, I became a more comfortable and confident person,” Schol said. “The experience just molds you and shapes you into somebody that is changed, and I think that I was changed for the better.”

Schol said that this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is one he knew he could not pass up, and he is ready to help students grow and learn while at HUF.

Finding a path for the ‘trapped’

The second installment of ‘The path from invisible captivity’ series

By Savanna DiStefano
Features Editor

When Partners Against Trafficking Humans (PATH) began in 2011, Arkansas was named among the “faltering four” states — along with Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming — for its lack of a legal framework against human trafficking by the Polaris Project, a leading organization combating human slavery, according to arkansasnews.com. According to Louise Allison, founder of PATH, the safe house, which opened in 2012, was the first of its kind for trafficked women in the state.

“When I started thinking about the other girls who are out there, who are trapped in their minds the way I was trapped, and scared, unable to do life, then I wanted to help them,” Allison said.

Allison became a victim of sex trafficking at the age of 14. After running away from her wealthy

Dallas home, Allison was stopped by a “really nice,” clean-cut young man less than two blocks from her house. She accepted his offer of a place to stay overnight and rode home with him in his expensive car. He proceeded to introduce her to the sex industry.

“I didn’t know (sex trafficking) existed,” Allison said. “I didn’t know how to call for help; I felt trapped.”

Allison was forced to have sex with several adult men every day for two years. She was transferred between various pimps, most of whom she cannot remember, along with fellow trafficked victims. The girls were often arrested for prostitution, but their trafficker taught them to give false names and ages upon each arrest in order to bring their earnings back safely.

Allison said she returned to her family at age 16 after police identified her from a pass to her

community pool that was left in the pocket of her worn-out blue jeans. She completed her high school education two years later at a boarding school in Dallas, where she graduated with honors.

She then willingly walked to her previous pimp’s headquarters and began selling herself again.

“Even though I was 18 on the outside, I was 14 years old on the inside,” Allison said. “I didn’t know how to manage my life, so I went back to the place I had been two years earlier, and I started prostituting again.”

Allison soon married and started a family. After approximately 15 years of a difficult marriage, depression and suicidal thoughts, Allison said everything “clicked” after a prayer to God. She said her thoughts kept her awake through the night as she sat in a lawn chair in her backyard. While her husband was away at his second

home in the city, where he handled his business, she walked to her neighbors’ house and used their phone to call her sister, who rescued her and the children.

“I was very manipulated into thinking this was going to be my life for the rest of my life, so I did exactly what I was told to do,” Allison said.

PATH provides several services to its clients. PATH works for the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual rehabilitation of victims. Women are first evaluated by physicians and therapists upon arrival, then given a multi-step plan for recovery. Fitness and diet plans, tutoring, financial counseling and other life skills education are part of the recovery program.

Each step allows a client more privileges and responsibility until she is able to live on her own, according to Allison. Each woman staying at the safe house

is given her own room, which she can decorate and use as a quiet place to help her recover.

Allison said she drew from 30 years of experience with child psychology and nursing administration, along with help from two social workers, two nurses and a psychologist, to create the program.

Allison said the program is individualized for the needs of each client, and it takes women a year on average to complete. According to Allison, a woman in a safe house will leave and return to at a national average of five times, but the average for a woman to leave PATH before completing the program is one.

Part three of “The Path from Invisible Captivity” series will appear in next week’s issue of *The Bison*, on stands Friday, April 1. The first installment of the series can be found online at thelink.harding.edu.

Students create children’s picture book

By Jordan Doyle
Beat Reporter

Once upon a time in a land far, far away, a young girl stood by her grandfather and used a carrot as a telescope to look up at the stars.

At least that is what senior child life major Elizabeth Walton wrote in her almost completed children’s book.

For Walton’s senior honors capstone project, she is working on a children’s book that encompasses facts about nutrition and how certain foods can strengthen different parts of the body. The book, still untitled takes place over the course of one day when an elementary-aged girl visits her grandfather, Grandy, who shows her how various healthy foods can help her in multiple activities.

Walton said she geared this book toward children to give them a clearer incentive to eat healthy foods.

“We’re really stub-

born people sometimes,” Walton said. “If someone tells you that you have to eat your broccoli, you don’t really want to. But if you can make it fun, a child doesn’t even realize that you’re instilling facts in them to make them think about (why they’re eating what they’re eating).”

To help readers better understand the concepts in the book, Walton asked sophomore graphic design major Rachel Gibson to illustrate the story. Each page will depict a different activity the nutrients received from healthy foods can help someone do. Walton said she made a point to ask Gibson to illustrate a variety of activities to appeal to a wide range of readers.

Walton said she gave Gibson freedom to draw whatever she wanted with few guidelines. The finished product, Walton said, was different than she originally thought, but was still exciting.

“Seeing Rachel’s

illustrations was so incredible,” Walton said. “I am good at imagining and coming up with things, but I cannot draw or illustrate any of that kind of stuff. Getting to share my idea with someone and seeing what they produced from it was really cool.”

Gibson said she agreed to illustrate the book not only because it would help her with her future career aspirations, but also because she believes artwork in children’s books is important.

“(Illustrations) expand your imagination,” Gibson said. “It helps you create the stories for yourself. When you get older, you don’t have to do that with the aid of illustrations. For young ages, though, it helps them to step into the world easier. It’s kind of a foundation for their imagination.”

Walton said she hopes the nutritional facts, as well as the illustrations, will be beneficial for



ILLUSTRATION BY RACHEL GIBSON

An illustration from senior Elizabeth Walton’s children’s book, which is not yet titled. The book is illustrated by sophomore Rachel Gibson and encompasses the idea of eating healthy.

children. Senior nursing major Lauren Noblitt read the book and said the facts in the book are applicable to everyone.

“The book is so cute and catchy, but it also does a great job at teaching kids about healthy foods,” Noblitt said. “I think they would connect with the

foods in the book that they liked and be really excited about them. It would give the parents a great opportunity to further education about nutrition.”

Walton is presenting her finished book with the illustrations on April 14.

5' x 5' • 5' x 10' • 5' x 15' • 10' x 15' • 10' x 20' • 10' x 25' • 12' x 25'

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

1311 N. MAPLE

GATED KEY ENTRY

PHONE (501) 258-9166



'The Bachelor' offers growth

Harding Alumna Rachel Tchen shares insights, stories

By Lauren Hargett
Student Writer

Did you fill out a bracket? Who do you think will be the winner? These two questions are all too common with March Madness now upon us, but they are quickly becoming popular questions for loyal fans of ABC's reality series "The Bachelor" as well.

As the 20th season of "The Bachelor" ended on Monday, March 14, the results of the season finale stunned fans across the nation. Ben Higgins, this season's bachelor, told the two final women that he loved them, a "Bachelor" first according to ABC. In the end, many fans were heartbroken when Joelle "JoJo" Fletcher was sent

home without a rose or a ring. According to TV Series Finale, there were over 9.5 million viewers watching the season finale and the show had an overall season average of 8 million viewers.

Alumna Rachel Tchen, a 2014 graduate, was a contestant on "The Bachelor" this season until she was sent home in week four. According to Tchen, this opportunity was perfect for her because she loves meeting new people and traveling to new places.

"Being a part of 'The Bachelor' was one of the most amazing experiences of my life," Tchen said. "I learned so much about myself and what I want out of life and in relationships."

Tchen said that the rose ceremonies in which Higgins sent contestants home were very stressful and nerve-racking.

"Rose ceremonies and cocktail parties lasted many hours a lot of times," Tchen said. "Long enough to make any pair of heels uncomfortable."

According to Tchen, the contestants are not allowed to comment on whether or not certain moments from the show are scripted or natural.

Tchen said that her favorite part about being on the show was unplugging from the rest of the world and getting to know the other girls in the house.

"I think so many of us are so caught up in social

media that it keeps us from having deeper and closer relationships with each other," Tchen said.

While many fans may have been disappointed by Ben's breakup with JoJo, others were thrilled with his proposal to Lauren Bushnell. Tchen said that she thinks the two make a beautiful couple and that she wishes them the best.

For those who were "Team JoJo," her love story is not over yet. The season finale was followed by "The Bachelor: After the Final Rose," when JoJo was announced as the next "Bachelorette." According to ABC, the 12th season of "The Bachelorette" is set to premiere on Monday, May 23.



Courtesy of ABC Press

Alumnae Rachel Tchen was selected to be one of the few women on ABC's 20th season of 'The Bachelor'. Although Tchen did not make it to the final rose, she learned from her time on the show.

Alternative study spots on campus

By Rachel Brackins
Head Copy Editor

The sun is shining, half of Harding's student population is out jogging and there isn't a hammock-free tree in sight. That's right, everyone. Arkansas weather has finally hit the sweet spot (and all God's people said "Amen.") Our weather apps consistently read "high of 70 degrees," so we peel off the layers of winter clothing, and gently remind our arms and legs what freedom feels like.

For those familiar to Searcy, or maybe just the South in general, we know these days of perfect weather are fleeting. Soon humidity and oppressive temperatures will reign supreme, and only a courageous few will leave the refreshing embrace of the air conditioner. So to help encourage you to get outside and enjoy this magical time of year before its gone, here are some of the best outside spots on campus.

The Front Lawn – Let's get the obvious suggestion out of the way first. The Front Lawn is perfect for Frisbee throwing, hammock hanging and blanket spreading. With plush grass that reaches from the Heritage to the Administration Auditorium, you will most likely be able to find an empty spot to spread out. It is in the center of campus activity, which is ideal if you and your friends plan to lay around and do "homework."

The Stevens Art Center – The sidewalk in between the student center and the Stevens Art Center splits off and takes a short detour, complete with two moss-covered benches and some fantastic trees. Although this nook is clearly visible to those traveling on the main sidewalk, it has a Secret Garden-like quality where people rarely notice the magic right in front of them. If you are looking for a nice place to study, try this

spot. The foot-traffic might be a little loud, so the use of headphones is advised. And while you might see all of your friends walking by, they most likely won't see you.

The Ezell – For those of you who have a hard time being productive unless you are sitting at a table, there are some new picnic tables nestled against the side of the Ezell building that faces Keller Hall. They are far enough away from the main sidewalk to eliminate the fear of casual conversations with passersby. If you get tired of solving quadratic formulas and need a break, you can check out chess pieces from Keller Hall and play a game or two on the built-in chess boards.

The Benson Hills – Unfortunately, these small pieces of land often get overlooked when it isn't snowing. But let me tell you, at 11 a.m., when the sun is poised perfectly over the Benson Auditorium, and the trees are in full bloom,

those hills are little slices of heaven. The location isn't ideal for heavy-duty-final-exam studying, but their slight inclines are perfect for a quick snooze before class. I've even seen some hammocks set up carefully in the smaller trees.

Memorial Garden – Follow the stone path around the side of the Mabey building and you'll end up in a small, quiet garden complete with a bench, small fountain and beautiful greenery. The garden, which was built in memory of former Harding employee Joe Pike, who passed away in 2011, has an air of reverence that makes visitors feel the need to whisper. This isn't the place to blast your music or finish a Biology worksheet – this is a place to breathe. Everyone needs a break now and again, so take advantage of these warm spring nights by taking a couple of moments to visit the garden and be still.



BRITNEY GARRINGER | The Bison

The Joe Pike Memorial Garden is hidden around the entrance of the Mabey building. It is one of the many great spots on campus to quietly study.

TORNADO TIPS

OUTSIDE

FIND A BUILDING
AVOID BUILDINGS WITH
LARGE OPEN ROOMS

OFF CAMPUS

STAY CLEAR OF EXTERIOR WALLS,
WINDOWS AND GLASS

ON CAMPUS

LOOK FOR POSTED
SEVERE WEATHER MAPS

INFO PROVIDED BY PUBLIC SAFETY

Graphic by Rachel Gibson

Harding Dress Exchange

By Savanna DiStefano
Features Editor

The prices for a woman's formal dress at Dillard's range from \$37- \$1,198, according to the store's website. The price range for a formal dress according to the JCPenney website is approximately \$30- \$150. But on the Harding University Formal Dress Exchange Facebook page, dress rentals start free, and the average listed price is \$20.

Juniors Michalie Brown and Ashley Buckner created the Harding University Formal Dress Exchange Facebook page. Brown said she was searching for a dress to wear to her club's formal, but she did not expect the page to become popular. "The Facebook page has helped other people out," Brown said. "We

are all college students — we know what it is like to be broke — and it is so much easier to get on there and find something that works, and you can rent it for \$15-20 instead of having to go to Little Rock and try on a million dresses."

Freshman Anna Fox said she has made \$80 so far by renting out her dresses on the page. Some students post shoes, jewelry and other formal accessories for sale or rent.

"I think it's a super cool page and very helpful for those wanting dresses or wanting to make a little money," Fox said.

The Facebook page is a closed group and hosts 1,081 members. Brown and Buckner are administrators on the page and approve a request to join after confirming that the

requester is a Harding female. Brown said this ensures the page does not deviate from its purpose.

"The page is where friends come together to help one another out to find a dress for upcoming events and hopefully relieve some stress of online searching or breaking the bank at pricey department stores," Buckner said.

Brown said she and Buckner have created a second Facebook page, Harding University Online Garage Sale, for Harding students to sell other items such as school supplies, books or unwanted dorm decor.

"The Facebook pages are a way to be a much more efficient university," Brown said. "We go out and buy all this stuff, but people here already have it, so we don't need to go buy (it)."



AMANDA FLOYD | The Bison

A new Facebook group, created by juniors Michalie Brown and Ashley Buckner make dress exchanging easy. The average price for renting a dress is \$20.

iPhone Service



Authorized
Service Provider

Quality Office, Inc.

304 South Main Searcy, AR 72143

501-268-5862

qualityoffice.com

iPhone, Apple Watch, Mac Computer, iPad, iPod,
In-warranty and out-of-warranty



AMANDA FLOYD | The Bison

Spring Sing 2016 hosts (from left) seniors Thomas Williams and Jesse Hixson, junior Aaron Young and senior Nate Lowe perform the opening number "Back in Time Again" from "Retro-bution." This the first time since 2010 that the hosts have consisted entirely of men.

'Brotherhood of men'

Four male hosts take audiences back to the '80s

By Jordan Doyle
Beat Reporter

"While (the hosts) operate at moments during the show as four soloists, it's important to know that we also operate as one person instead of four separate people," returning Spring Sing host senior Jesse Hixson said. "It's the difference between Justin Timberlake and N'SYNC. There are moments where you have to be a great performer by yourself, but when you are with a group, you need to be able to blend."

The way the Spring Sing hosts blend together is one of the main reasons they were chosen as the first all-male host group since 2010, according to Spring Sing director Dottie Frye.

"They are blending in multiple ways," Frye said. "We think first of musically, because there is only one

feature number. Everything else they do is in a group. The other thing that is equally important to me is that each of their personalities can work well in a group. To me, the process of the work is equally important as the product. If the process is an encouraging one that builds us up, then we learn to stretch and grow, and to respect other people. That makes the product (extremely) good."

Junior returning ensemble member Josh Robinson said the hosts' chemistry works great together, and that their personalities are working differently than the hosts and hostesses last year.

"They're hysterical," Robinson said. "They feed off of each other so well. This year, it's more of a brotherhood. It's like a group of friends hanging out, guys being guys. They've had to figure out

Nate's voice is amazing and incredible. He can belt notes like nobody's business. Jesse knows how to stand on a stage and sell, and knows how to connect with the audience. Aaron can sing high notes like it's second nature to him. Thomas' energy is unlike anything I've seen on the Benson stage. If he could dance the entire show, he would. The audience is just going to love every minute of this show. It's great.

-Junior Josh Robinson, ensemble member

a different way to choreograph singing the club introductions."

Hixson said that having all males host comes with more

positive experiences, as well as more challenges. He said one of the challenges has been modifying the choreography so it is not all partner work. He also said a positive of being a part of an all-male group is that there is a lack of separation. From being in the same dressing room, to being with each other at all times during the host retreat, the hosts have done nearly everything together in this process, Hixson said.

Senior Thomas Williams said he has auditioned for host since his sophomore year, and after investing so much time and energy into the theatre department, it is an honor to finally hold this title. Williams said the four men have bonded over the course of this "crazy process."

"We're all just out there trying to make each other laugh," Williams

said. "I think my favorite thing with the hosts is joking backstage and hitting the harmonies at the end of 'United We Stand.'"

Robinson said he can tell as an ensemble member that all the time the hosts have spent together pays off on stage. He said even though they have different personalities, they all mesh well together, which makes for a good show.

"Nate's voice is amazing and incredible," Robinson said. "He can belt notes like nobody's business. Jesse knows how to stand on a stage and sell, and knows how to connect with the audience. Aaron can sing high notes like it's second nature to him. Thomas' energy is unlike anything I've seen on the Benson stage. If he could dance the entire show, he would. The audience is just going to love every minute of this show. It's great."

Spring Sing build crew works behind the scenes

Backstage workers wear many hats, serving as painters, lighting technicians, prop handlers

By Caleb Rowan
Asst. Sports Editor

While thousands of students have spent the last few months preparing for their moments on the Benson stage in this year's "Retro-bution" Spring Sing show, the Harding Department of Theatre's build crew is looking forward to seeing their behind-the-scenes work come to life. Assistant Technical Director Seth Fish has led the group as they built the set, painted the stage and prepared to help hosts, ensemble and club acts on and off stage for the weekend's upcoming performances.

According to Fish, although the tangible work toward bringing the show's set to fruition was accomplished within the past month, the planning and design of the project has been a much longer process.

"Our responsibility is to make sure that all of the physical pieces work together on the stage," Fish said. "We've been physically working on Spring Sing for about four weeks, but there's been a lot of planning and preparation going on for months now."

Junior Hannah Reimert, a member of the build crew, said that working on other shows during the semester has made the building process for Spring Sing a challenging one.

"We've already had two productions this semester in the theatre department, and we had to build both of those (sets), so it's been a really tight turnaround," Reimert said. "It's hard, but it's a good hard."

Reimert said that the group understands that it may not get credit for its hard work but that the members of the build crew see the show as another opportunity to serve.

"We are here to serve the show as a whole," Reimert said. "Unfortunately the backstage parts of the job are not necessarily what the audience comes to see, but it's still really cool to be able to serve the performers in a way that not many people know about."

Senior Jacob Tomlinson, the master carpenter, said the group is rewarded not by recognition, but by having the opportunity to work and build relationships with everyone else involved in the show.

"You don't get a lot of recognition, but whenever your head's in the right place, you don't really aim for that because you have the experience of working with these great people," Tomlinson said. "Throughout Spring Sing you get to see the clubs gradually get to their top potential and hear their success and the roaring of the crowds...to me the

biggest satisfaction is to see them succeed."

As for the set itself, Tomlinson said he is most excited about the bright colors and lighting for this year's Spring Sing stage.

"We have some creative painting and lighting tech-

niques to really make the stage pop through practical effects, which is something I think we really have a talent for," Tomlinson said. "What you can see out front are the Rubik's Cubes, and that color scheme plays into the rest of the set."

The build crew will take on its final role as Harding welcomes thousands of visitors to campus for Spring Sing 2016. For Reimert, being a part of entertaining those guests makes the hard work worthwhile.

"It's really cool to see the

thousands of people who come to see Spring Sing," Reimert said. "Families come, alumni come — people talk about Spring Sing for years after, and just to know you had a hand in making all of that even possible — that's really rewarding."



AMANDA FLOYD | The Bison

Junior Joshua Johnson and sophomore Alex Kraus help other members of the theatre build crew paint blue lines on the Benson stage for this weekend's production of "Retro-bution."



SPRING SING

2C | Friday, March 25, 2016

FRIEND-ZONED



Non-club students redefine the famous phrase in Spring Sing

BRITTNEY GARRINGER | The Bison

Freshman Mariah Paulger joins sophomore Iota Chi member Jesse Mechler and senior Zeta Pi Zeta member Kristina Kiser for Chi Omega Pi, Zeta Pi Zeta, Iota Chi and Shantih's "Tantrums and Tiaras" Spring Sing show.

By Hannah Moore
Beat Reporter

The first thing most people think about when they hear the words "friend zone" is the iconic phrase created by the television show "Friends," but Spring Sing takes it to a new level. Students whose club is not performing or are not in a club, but want to perform in Spring Sing, redefine the phrase.

According to sophomore William Jackson, Omega Phi Spring Sing director, 22 out of the 80 performers in the Omega Phi and Delta Gamma Rho show are "friends."

"I think having friends can be helpful to the show, because it increases variety in the social atmosphere," Jackson said. "Those in other clubs and not in clubs have a chance to socialize with the main clubs involved. In addition, I think the socialization between non-club members and those in clubs can be a helpful recruiting tool for the clubs."

With friends like freshman Drew Ericson, a member of Knights, Delta Nu's show is not comprised of only females.

"I decided to do Spring Sing with Delta Nu because

I already had a lot of friends in the club, and so I felt like it would be a natural fit for me," Ericson said. "I think the whole 'and friends' aspect is really beneficial to the production as a whole, because it allows people who may not have wanted to join a club, or were too busy in the fall semester, and enjoy performing, to be a part of something that means so much to such a large group of people."

According to senior Alyssa Abraham, Chi Kappa Rho Spring Sing director, the Chi Kappa Rho, GATA and Phi Kap-

pa Delta show would not have enough performers to fill the stage without permitting non-members to participate.

"My freshman year, I didn't join a club, and I wanted to do Spring Sing because I had seen it for years," Abraham said. "I ended up doing Spring Sing my freshman year as a friend with a small club show. I liked the girls so much that I ended up joining the club Chi Kappa Rho. For our show this year, we have nine friends. We need those nine because otherwise, we wouldn't have enough people. It's a

good opportunity, and you shouldn't be limited to a club to be able to participate in Spring Sing."

Senior Allison Nolan is performing in her own club's show with Delta Nu and also participating in the Omega Phi and Delta Gamma Rho show, both in a small part capacity.

"This is my one chance to dance," Nolan said. "Dance was everything to me in high school, and I don't get to do it anymore. I'm in the Delta Nu show because I wanted to do the tap dancing part; I've never done tap before, and I thought it would be

fun. I'm doing the (Omega Phi and Delta Gamma Rho) show because I really like the Omega Phi guys. I wanted to get to know them better, and I thought this would be a good way to do it. I would do three shows if I could."

Friends who are not in a club, whose club does not have a show or who wanted to participate in multiple shows appreciate the opportunity to perform in Spring Sing. Both club shows and Spring Sing as a whole greatly benefit from the contributions made by non-members in the "friend zone."

Student athletes take Spring Sing

By David Salley
Head Sports Editor

Participating in a Spring Sing show, especially as a large part, requires late nights, countless hours of choreography and singing practices, and often sacrificing parts of your weekends. Spring Sing large part is no small undertaking, but it is even more challenging as an active collegiate athlete.

Freshman Zach Fryxell, who is in the TNT, Zeta Rho and Friends show, also plays for the Bisons' basketball team. He said that his experience playing basketball and participating in Spring Sing was a positive one, but one that left his schedule completely booked on most days.

"It kept me very busy, and I've had plenty of late nights," Fryxell said. "It was extremely difficult. I've missed close to as many Spring Sing practices as I've made because I've had basketball practice or games. It has been a challenge to keep up with all the dance moves."

Freshman cheerleader Ellie Arnett, who is participating in Ju Go Ju and

Ko Jo Kai's show, said that there were times when she would have to miss Spring Sing practice to cheer at basketball games, which made it more challenging for her to learn the dance moves for the show.

"It was difficult at the beginning, because I would have to miss most of the Spring Sing practices because of basketball games or cheer practice," Arnett said. "But once basketball season ended, it was much easier to keep up with Spring Sing."

Although both Fryxell and Arnett had some struggles early on trying to balance their competing schedules, both also said that having a background with athletics helped them acclimate better to their roles in their respective shows. Fryxell said that being in shape from basketball season paid off when learning the show's dance moves, and Arnett said that her cheerleading experience helped her adjust to the bright lights of the stage.

"Being in front of the student sections at both the football and basketball games has helped with be-

ing on stage," Arnett said. "I'm used to having people watch me dance because of cheer, and I'm used to learning dances. Being on stage and on the court or field are very similar, and cheer has definitely helped me in that regard."

Despite scheduling challenges and a very hectic couple of months, each made it clear that doing Spring Sing, even as an athlete, was well worth it.

"I got to be with the guys on the team and then go be with everyone in Spring Sing," Fryxell said. "I got to be around just about every kind of personality, and it was just a great experience overall."

Arnett felt the same and urged future athletes not to let the opportunity to participate in Spring Sing pass them by.

"I would highly recommend doing both," Arnett said. "It is such a great opportunity to meet new people and grow closer to the people in your club. It can be stressful at times, but it is so worth it in the end on both the sports side and Spring Sing side."



BRITTNEY GARRINGER | The Bison

Freshman cheerleader Ellie Arnett is a member of the cheerleading squad and Ju Go Ju and Ko Jo Kai's Spring Sing show, "Wonderland." Arnett said participating in Spring Sing, even as a student athlete, is a great opportu-



BRITTNEY GARRINGER | The Bison

Freshman basketball player Zach Fryxell is a member of the Bisons basketball team and TNT and Zeta Rho's Spring Sing show, "Ice Ice Baby." Fryxell said being in shape from basketball season helped him through Spring Sing.

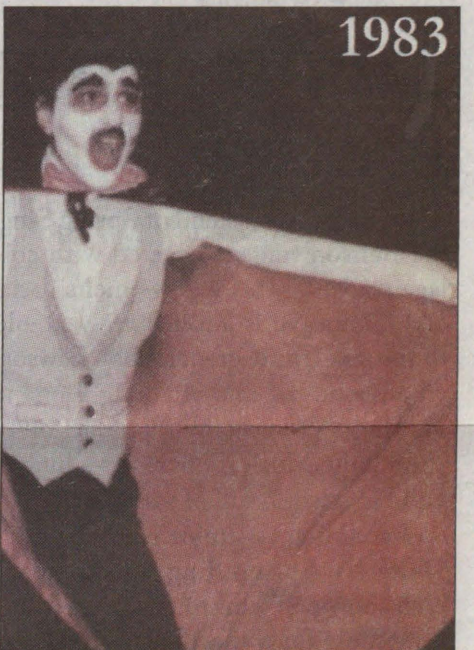
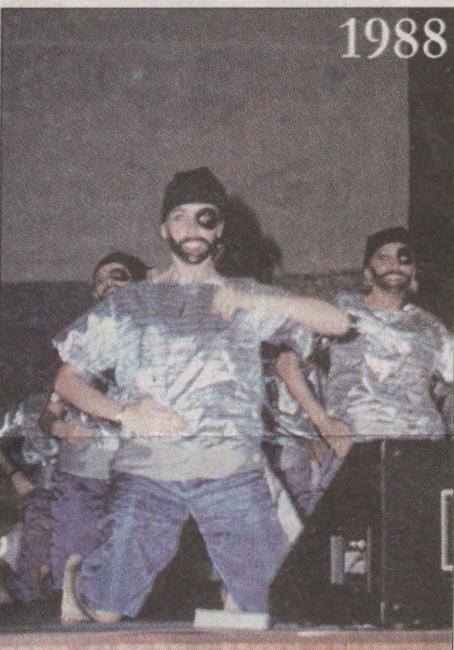
SPRING SING

Friday, March 25, 2016 | 3C



Blast from the Past: Spring Sing then and now

Spring Sing club themes mimic those from years past



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRACKETT LIBRARY AND AMANDA FLOYD

Top left to right: Omega Phi and Delta Gamma Rho perform "Peter Pan-demonium," TNT and Zeta Rho perform "Ice Ice Baby," Delta Nu performs "Delta Nu Moon." Bottom left to right: Ko Jo Kai perform "Keel of Fortune," TNT and Zeta Rho perform "All Dressed Up With No Place To Go," King-smen perform "You Bite Up My Life."

Celebrating 42 years of Spring Sing

By Melissa Hite
Editorial Asst.

This year marks 42 years since Harding's first Spring Sing performance in 1974 — but what did that first show look like? According to former professor of theatre Dr. Morris Ellis, who served as the show's first official technical director, Spring Sing began entirely as "a student-driven, student-directed, student-tech production."

Ellis said students, inspired by Abilene Christian University's Sing Song, approached Dr. Jack Ryan, former professor of oral communication, and asked him to sponsor a club-based musical variety show for Harding. When Ryan agreed, they put on the whole show themselves. Current theatre department chair Robin Miller,

who was a Harding freshman in 1974, did technical work on that first show.

"We (did not know) what we were doing," Miller said. "There was a case of 'What is this thing?'"

However, from a faculty perspective, Ellis, who became technical director in 1975, saw the first few productions as Spring Sing's first steps — a chance for students to explore the show's possibilities through trial and error.

"Those early years were so exciting because the students were learning what could and could not be done on stage," Ellis said. "They had no references to what had been done before."

Since the Benson Auditorium would not open until 1980, Spring Sing spent its first years in the Administration Auditorium a

much smaller venue which presented a number of challenges. According to Ellis, the auditorium provided virtually no backstage space either for performers or for their set pieces.

"There are two sets of stairs onto the Administration Auditorium stage from the basement, and literally, people came in, came up the stairs, went on one side, went down the other and went out," Miller said. "It was a challenge."

According to Miller, working in such a cramped space meant fewer people onstage and a simpler show format. While the early Spring Sing shows did feature hosts and hostesses, they did not include an ensemble. Miller said a band (though not the traditional jazz band) did play live, but not in an orchestra pit — they stood in

Those early years were so exciting because the students were learning what could and could not be done on stage.

- Dr. Morris Ellis
Former professor of theatre

front of the first row. And while current students might associate Spring Sing with enthusiastic choreography, the first shows focused much more on the singing, according to Miller.

"It was much more of a choral competition between the clubs," Miller said. "There was virtually no movement ... We literally used choir risers for the clubs, and you actually had a conductor on stage."

Spring Sing has since changed its venue, updated its technology and altered its format, but Miller said he feels that the heart of Spring Sing — "student involvement, student discovery and student learning" — has remained consistent over the years.

"It is a lot of fun, it is a lot of work, but I see students who grow through the process," Miller said. "I see club leaders who learn leadership skills (and) how to work with people (and) how to solve problems. I see students who have never been in front of an audience in their life ... get out there and do something they never dreamed they could do with their friends, and have success with it ... it's that student involvement and student learning that's just so wonderful about the show."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRACKETT LIBRARY AND AMANDA FLOYD

Left: 2016 Spring Sing participants perform the finale in the Benson Auditorium during dress rehearsal March 22. Right: Various clubs perform "Beat of the Future" during the Spring Sing finale in the Benson Auditorium in 1988.



SPRING SING

4C | Friday, March 25, 2016



AMANDA FLOYD | THE BISON

Sophomores Ronnie Clements and Natalie Smith perform with 9-year-old Abby Lawson, who portrays a human child in a world of vampires in Delta Nu and friends Spring Sing show this weekend, March 24-26. Lawson played Young Fiona in "Shrek the Musical" last fall.

Delta Nu adds 9-year-old to Spring Sing cast

By Rachel Brackins
Head Copy Editor

During the weekend of Spring Sing, the Benson stage is covered with college students. This year, women's social club Delta Nu is adding a 9-year-old to the mix. Third-grader Abby Lawson, who played the role of Young Fiona in Harding's Homecoming production of "Shrek the Musical", portrays a human child in a world full of vampires.

According to junior Karis Elliot, a Delta Nu Spring Sing director, each club show performs to raise money and awareness for a specific charity. Delta Nu has chosen to partner with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), an organization that assigns adults to

children's court cases to facilitate the process, answer questions and help the children feel safe.

"We wanted to kind of redefine what family is, so we wanted to go with CASA and do an adoption story," Elliot said. "This vampire family adopts a human girl, and it's about how blood doesn't make you family."

Junior Shelby Underwood, a Delta Nu Spring Sing director, said that Abby Lawson adds a layer of reality to the show. According to Underwood, having an actual child on the stage makes the story hit home in a way that a college student would not.

"I feel like everything we've put into this show, and everything that Abby (Lawson)

brings, is translated to the audience in a very real way," Underwood said. "Having her help us tell the story brings honesty and innocence that we probably wouldn't have if she wasn't with us."

Abby Lawson said that one of her favorite parts about participating in Spring Sing is getting to hang out with college students. She said she has fun getting to talk and practice with so many "older kids." Abby Lawson's mother, Katie Lawson, said she appreciates the way the college students have treated her daughter.

"They have been very sweet to her," Katie Lawson said. "These kids go above and beyond to make her feel very special and to make sure she's comfortable and having a good time. As a parent, that

means a lot."

Underwood said Abby Lawson brings a lot of talent and spirit to the show and that she has been fun to work with during practices. According to Elliot, the men in the show treated Abby Lawson as their little sister.

"Everyone else who is performing is just in awe of her because she is so talented," Elliot said. "It's hard to get the college kids to work when she's performing because they just stare at her."

Abby Lawson said that she is excited to perform, and that she has a special way of fighting off pre-show nerves.

"I usually just think, 'Well, if I do mess up, then they won't know because they haven't seen this,'" Abby Lawson said.

Spring Sing brings business boom to Searcy

By Kaleb Turner
News Editor

With an influx of alumni, family and friends to Harding for Spring Sing, it is no surprise that Searcy's economy and community benefit from the weekend of celebration.

According to Shannon Kaies, general manager of Holiday Inn and Suites in Searcy, reservations pushed the hotel to full capacity for the weekend about three weeks before guests started making their way to town.

"Spring Sing is always one of the major weekends of our entire calendar year," Kaies said. "It's one of the city's biggest weekends for generating revenue, because it's such a big

weekend for spending money."

Kaies and her staff prepared by checking how many guests have booked a stay for the weekend and anticipating needs to make an enjoyable stay. Kaies said she makes sure extra breakfast, linens and goods are ordered ahead of time.

According to Kaies, hotel staff is also increased to manage the high number of guests and meet their needs.

Bethany Palmer, owner of Pasta Grill, makes similar provisions in preparing her restaurant for the weekend. Palmer's husband anticipates the extra food to be ordered and additional staff is brought in to ensure maximum efficiency.

"This will be our sixth year in business during Spring Sing weekend," Palmer said. "While there is usually a waiting list for Friday and Saturday night, we look at past years and new methods to determine how we can increase efficiency for getting our guests in and out quickly."

Searcy Mayor David Morris said Spring Sing is an important event for the Searcy and White County economy and community. Morris also highlighted the weekend's spiritual benefit to the area as the community comes together to celebrate Easter.

"It brings so many people into town and brings such a captive audience," Morris said. "With students from so many areas, we pull people from all

across the nation to come and be here in Searcy. It fills our motels and hotels up, including in surrounding cities. Spring Sing is so good for us both economically and spiritually."

Palmer said whether it is through business interaction or through interaction as a community member, Spring Sing gives visitors an idea of what Searcy is really about.

"Spring Sing is a weekend that we get to showcase some of the best things about Searcy — some of the things we choose to celebrate and showcase in life," Palmer said. "It really comes down to the relationships and the people of Searcy, and that is what is highlighted in our community during the Spring Sing weekend."

